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From: CN=Karen Schwinn/OU=R9/O=USEPA/C=US
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Subject: BDCP

Went to 2 mtgs yesterday(one with feds only; then with Meral, Cowin and Howard) convened by Commissioner Connor. Apparently, Hayes sent a memo to fed agencies describing his new role (I asked Nawi for a copy.) and these mtgs were his kick off. Sounds like it was at least partially at contractors request. He is supposed to ensure federal interagency coordination and fed-state coordination, resolving Issues as needed. He described it as week-to-week, rather than day-to-day (which I guess distinguishes it from David Nawi's role.)

Most of both meetings were discussion of process - how to focus; how to best use Wed mtgs; how can feds provide direction to ICF. Mark Cowin described how they were still reinventing the process and would like federal agency partnership but this was only acceptable to water user funders as long as it didn't delay schedule. Connor will be discussing this with water users. Mark also wants to "clear the air" on any unresolved issues, as he has suffered from past miscommunications and/or deferral of issues.

Couple things to know:

- MC wants to keep focus on getting Effects Analysis by March 2012 and DEIS by June 2012. He wants to defer less time-critical issues, such as governance and adaptive range for the post-DEIS end game discussions.

- there may be an exchange of letters between feds and state committing to schedule, with caveats of course. (Separately, I'll send latest schedule I have.)

- MC asked for a list of critical path tasks and issues, with milestones, re: EA and DEIS. (Stelle got DOI and NOAA staff to draft this as mtg was happening. He made copies but deliberately did not share with Paul or I.) This will be drafted by 7/8 and discussed at 7/13 5-agency mtg. (Connor will only call into these Wed mtgs on occasion.)

- the initial ICF product ("conceptual framework") due on July 18 is considered a litmus test of their performance. We will have a chance to review. Fed comments will be coordinated. Document will be peer reviewed.

Gotta shut down - plane is taking off!